Quiz 6 - Chapter 4 – Political Parties

1. A political party is

a. an organization that consists of individuals interested in controlling government by winning elections.

b. an organization that consists of indvididuals interested in pressuring elected officials to change public policy.

c. a coalition of private and public organizations influenced in creating societal change.

d. none of these choices accurately describes a political party.

2. In Texas, the two leading political parties are the

a. Democratic and Republican.

b. Republican and Libertarian.

c. Republican and Green.

d. Democratic and Green.

3. A general election is held in

a. March of odd-numbered years.

b. November of even-numbered years.

c. November of odd-numbered years.

d. March of even-numbered years.

4. In Texas, a candidate may only win an office in a general election if he/she receives

a. a majority of the vote.

b. two-thirds of the vote.

c. a plurality of the vote.

d. three-quarters of the vote.

5. The American political party system consists of

a. national, county, city, and state levels.

b. national, state, county, and precinct levels.

c. county, state, local, and national levels.

d. national, precinct, county, and city levels.

6. Primaries and conventions that nominate candidates, adopt platforms, and select delegates to higher level conventions are known as

a. bloc parties.

b. party caucuses.

c. permanent party organizations.

d. temporary party organizations.

7. Precinct conventions in Texas are usually

a. heavily attended.

b. lightly or sparsely attended.

c. held at times other than after the polls close.

d. held in odd-numbered years.

8. Resolutions adopted at the precinct convention will be submitted first to the

a. national convention.

b. city-wide convention.

c. county or district convention.

d. state convention.

9. The main business of county and district conventions is to

a. hold primary elections.

b. introduce candidates to party members.

c. select delegates to the state convention.

d. conduct general elections.

10. According to the Texas Election Code, each political party in Texas must hold a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in June of even-numbered years.

a. primary election

b. county convention

c. state convention

d. general election

11. Which of the following happens at the party state convention during presidential election years only?

a. Adoption of state party platform

b. Selection of potential presidential electors

c. Selection of members of the state executive committee

d. Certification to secretary of state the names of party members nominated to run for office

12. Which of the following is not one of a party precinct chair’s duties?

a. Representing the party in lawsuits

b. Registering and persuading voters in the precinct

c. Getting people to the polls

d. Distributing candidate literature and info

13. As mandated by Texas state law, each party’s state executive committee must

a. be comprised equally of men and women.

b. include members of the state legislature.

c. provide proportional representation for various demographic groups.

d. receive a majority vote of the primary election voters.

14. The main role of a state party’s chair is to be the party’s

a. key strategist and key spokesperson.

b. candidate for governor.

c. chief attorney in civil and criminal cases.

d. social event coordinator.

15. Returns from the party primaries for statewide office are counted (or “canvassed”) by the

a. county chairs meeting in Austin.

b. state party executive committee.

c. governor, secretary of state, and attorney general.

d. chief justice of the Texas Supreme Court.

16. A conservative would most likely support which of the following policies?

a. Changing the law to improve worker pay and benefits

b. Tighter governmental regulation of pollution from factories

c. Legal protections against racial and gender discrimination

d. A ban on same-sex marriages

17. Liberals would most likely support which of the following policies?

a. Restricting the ability of a woman to obtain an abortion or contraception

b. Prohibiting homosexuals from holding public employment

c. laws protecting a woman’s right to equal pay for equal work

d. Reducing the progressivism of the national income tax

18. The history of the Texas political party system has tended toward

a. strong voter support for third parties.

b. favoring independent movements.

c. Texas always having a strong two-party system.

d. Texas being a one-party state.

19. Which political party during the latter part of the 19th century focused on agrarian issues and posed a challenge to the Democratic party of Texas?

a. Whig

b. Populist

c. Republican

d. Green

20. Beginning in the late 1940s, a majority of conservative Democrats in Texas began to support the

a. state Republican candidates.

b. national Republican candidates.

c. state Socialist-Labor candidates.

d. national Libertarian candidates.